

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a method and apparatus for manufacturing articles (e.g., opening tabs) to be included in cans, a metal strip is fed into an article forming unit in which the metal strip is punched and stamped to form the articles. Before the article forming
5 operation, the strip is provided with laser engravings on at least one of its upper and lower surfaces. The laser engravings are provided on the strip when the strip is in an immobilized condition.